

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
PRINCETON, N.J.

Rev. Stewart MacM. Robinson, B.D.,
Chaplains Training School,
Camp Zachary Taylor,
Louisville, Ky.

May 9, 1918.

My dear Mr. Robinson:

Your newsy and most welcome letter of April 29th was duly received. I was very glad to hear from you, and especially to hear that you are enjoying your experiences in army life so much. You certainly seem to be in a fair way to accumulate a considerable amount of worldly wisdom, not to say theological knowledge also, by brushing up against so many young men of kindred aim but diverse religious antecedents and training. Doubtless, in many ways the army is a great leveller, and from the point of view of the Church the various representatives must often face the question of the raison d'être of denominationalism; and when they do, it is not a bad feeling to have that one can claim the honor and blessings of a good Calvinistic and Presbyterian tradition.

I presume you have been informed ere this that the degree of B.D. was awarded to you and conferred in your absence. With your excellent Thesis and your other credits, you richly deserved this recognition.

Your letter did not come in time to arrange, at the Saturday meeting of the Faculty, for your postponing the use of the Fellowship; but at the special meeting yesterday afternoon, I secured permission for you to postpone for the present the use of the Fellowship. No definite time was set, but I suppose the phrase "the duration of the war" is the one that applies to the situation. There are quite a number of other Fellows who have been doing the same thing. The pity of it is that even if the war should end to-morrow, the foreign institutions would not be particularly interesting places, viewed strictly as seats of learning, for some time thereafter. Faculties, too, will need time to rehabilitate themselves; and as for the German Universities, it will, I fancy, be a long while before an American will care to sojourn under their auspices in the land burdened with the guilt of Prussianism.

We had the pleasure of having your Father take dinner with us on commencement eve. It is a great pleasure to me personally to see him in the Board of Directors, and I am sure it will be a good thing for the Seminary to have one of his gifts and associations to add to

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the Philadelphia membership of the Board.

Life has suddenly assumed its midsummer quiet at this end of the campus. The year has gone with a speed that reminds me that my standard of measurement has changed since the days of my studentship. We shall stay here till toward the end of June, when we propose to take the same cottage we had last year at Wildwood Crest, near Cape May. We shall take occasion to see something of the camp in that neighborhood. Doubtless, the uniform will be much in evidence in our little borough there.

In conclusion, I want to congratulate you on the close of your successful Seminary course. I regret that the necessity of preserving as much as possible a judicial attitude toward you and your work, especially this last year, has prevented me from seeing more of you; but I do not know that you could have acquitted yourself with greater distinction than you have. I shall be deeply interested in watching your development, and I trust you will find time for an occasional letter. We shall hope the war will not last as long as some of our military experts seem to think it will.

With sincere regards to Mrs. Robinson and yourself, in which Mrs. Loetscher joins me,

I am, cordially yours,
Frederick W. Loetscher.